(1) 4 W 1 2. 143.

Capt. Dampier's

Vindication of his Voyage

To the South-Seas *in the Ship* St. George.

With some small Observations for the Present on Mr. Funnel's *Chimerical Relation* Of the Voyage Round the World; *and Detected in Little, until he shall be Examin'd more at Large.*

IN the first place, he calls himself my Mate; He went out my Steward, and afterwards I did make a Midshipman of him: Indeed he had the Advantage of perusing Draughts and Books, of which he afterwards gave but a slender Account, for some he pretended were lost, and others the Draughts are torn out of them; Especially the Draughts of Winds, which I greatly suspect him of Doing, because he is not the first Man that has Endeavour'd to build upon another Man's Foundation.

2. In pag. 2. lin. 4. he says, that Capt. *Pullen* was going in Company with us; but while we lay at Anchor in the *Downs*, there arose a Difference between to two Captains, on which *Pullen* went away.

I wonder at his Impudence, for I was at London, *when Capt.* Pullen *went away; and 'tis well known 'twas the Owner's, His, and Mine could not agree; to whom I Appeal.*

3. In p. 2. l. 27. Our Proposals, says he, were to go into the *River of Plate*, and to *Buonas Aires*, to take 2 or 3 *Spanish* Galleons, which Capt. *Dampier* gives and Account of (*I say Capt.* Dampier, *as he does, because I was a Foreign Gentleman that was not to return Home*) are usually there. *I desire to know of the Gentleman, when it was that I gave this Account, and to whom; I must confess there was some Discourse about it; but I never design'd to go to* Buonas Aires, *for them, being such a Dangerous River to Up: And I think Capt.* Pullen *talk'd something like that, and so Mr.* Funnel *from thence may conclude what he pleases. For*

He gives Reasons of his own; why we did not go to Buonas Aires. *Indeed he has a very Productive Brain* to produce Reasons!

Where Mr. *Funnell* says Capt. *Dampier* and Lieut. *Huxford* Disagreed.

There was no such thing; for it was Mr. Morgan, *Purser and Agent, that disagreed with Lieut.* Huxford, *went ashore, and Fought; upon which a* Portugueze, *a sort of* Corrigidor, *Confin'd Mr.* Huxford; *and a day or two afterwards, he himself sent for his Chest and Cloaths, which were deliver'd. But the Day before I sail'd I sent for him Aboard, and his Chest and Cloaths actually came, so that I had no manner of Aversion to him; but Mr.* Morgan *swore, if Mr.* Huxford, *sail'd with us, he would not go the Voyage.* And where ill Blood is, this ordinarily happens; *upon which I ordered him to go on Board Capt.* Pickering, *whose Boat was on Board along our Side, and Lieut.* Stradling *in it. This will shew (until I could Reconcile these Two after a Gentleman-like-manner) I did the Best I could, but it happen'd otherwise, for instead of carrying him to the Cinque-por, He and* Huxford *disagreeing when they were going from me, he set him on Board a* Portugueze *Marchant-Man.*

4. In relation to *James Barnaby*, second Lieut. He says, that [illegible] Disagreement with Him, the Lieut. (meaning *Barnaby*) and eight of the Men went on shore and left us, taking their Chests and Cloaths with them,

To the Contrary of this I answer: *I take God to witness I never disagreed with him; but finding him a little Pert in Opinion on a Dispute between him and Mr.* Morgan, *I order'd him out of the Cabbin. Some little time after this, as we Rode at the Isle of* Grandee, *he goes on board the* Cinqueport, *sent for his Things, but I refus'd them; Whereupon he comes on board after a Refractory manner, Charges me with a Promise; and he, and 8 of the Men, being rather Assisted than hinder'd by the Crew (as Mr Funnell knows) Mutiny'd, to begin their Rogury; they took my Boat, and went away per Force, on a Design to board a* Portugueze Bark *that was lying on the other Shore, near the Main, but that Bark and Crew was aware of them Upon which, to acquit my self Fairly to all Nations,* I sent Letters to the Governour of *Rio de Janaro, to acquaint him with the Knavish Part of their Intent,* and that *they might* have Sculk'd and Prosecured Something like the former Design; This Mr. *Morgan* can Testify.

In p. 13. Mr. *Funnell*, to settle my Mistakes, says he saw the *Bibald de Wards.* But every body knows it *is a Greater Mistake* [illegible] *seeing that he never saw: For none but Mr. Morgan* and my Self could know the Contrary.

In p. 14. towards the latter End, he says we saw a Land, *January* 11*th*, contrary to all Expectations.

This is a Merry way of his; for it is well known the Evening before, I told them we should see Land the next Morning, *that of* Terra del Fuego, the South Part of it: *Now I look upon that to be a greater Mistake, to take one side of the Land for the other, than 'tis to be mistaken that we were Westward of the whole Island, and miss his Longitude, for that comes of course.*

Tho' there may be more Mistakes that we pass over to abreviate this Matter, as yet, my Crew not being wholly here, I mention only the two Actions of the Voyage, on which depend the Miscarriage of the whole, *by the Mens Disorder.*

The first of which is the French *Ship that we Engag'd, that was coming to the Island of* Juan Fernando's, *to whom we gave Chace from* 3 *in the Afternoon, and fetch'd upon her so fast, that making of her to Hull, I found she was an* European *Ship and not a* Spaniard; *upon which, I was not willing to pursue her any farther, but the Men being (as they Pretended) in a Desire of Engagement,* Right or Wreng, I *follow'd her, and next Morning early, we came up with her; and when I saw nothing would disengage them from* and Insignificant Attempt, I *encourag'd them all I could. By this time my Consort had given her a* Broad side; *So I ranged up her other Side, and gave her a* Broad-side *likewise. Now to shew the Confusion they were then in, they Fir'd upon our own Consort in his falling a Stern, and Hinder'd his Help. Notwithstanding this I came up again, and Exchang'd* 3 *or* 4 Broadsides *with her, wherein Ten of my Men suffer'd,* 9 *kill'd and* 1 *wounded; which Dismay'd my Men so much, they actually run down off the* Deck, *and made nothing of it afterwards; So that when I could have boarded her and carried her, the Mate,* Cleppington *by Name, cry'd, The Men are all gone; and* Bellhash *the Master, whose Office it was to be always upon* Deck, *was gone also; tho' this Gentleman is now a Valiant Talker, to my Detriment.*

In p. 25, 26. Mr. *Funnell* says the Crew were Desirous to ght this Ship again, *Now since they made nothing of it while in y Power; What was to be done afterwards?* And as to my telling em (*as he says*) I could get at any time 500000 *l.* I *say, so I, pt my* Boats *which were then lost, or would my People have been Rul'd.*

In p. 32. Mr. *Funnell* says we took a Ship of 200 Tuns, loaden th several good Commodities, as *Indigo, Cochinel,* &c.

Now for *Cochineel*, I never heard of any, *Indigo* there was; the other, and the *Turtleshel*, he so frequently speaks of, *I* be gon the same way that many Rich and Valuable Goods

 have

have, by the Management of those Pyrating Fellows, rather than Sailors, the *Indigo* I could not take on Board; nor could I trust any of them with the Sailing such a Ship, as could neither keep me Company, nor make right Steerage-way.

In p. 33. He says truth as to Mr. *Observator's* Ship and the *Monkey* that was left in her; *but as to Firing at any thing but the Ship*, and the whole Crew, who before we could make up to her, had made into their Boats, and nothing besides the Cargo and the *Monkey* were indeed on Board, *which shou'd have been brought along, had we not Observators enough at Home.*

The next thing they Charge me with, especially Mr. *Funnell* in p. 41. in the Gulph of *St Michael*, says, when we were in the Barque last taken, and Indian Canoe Haled us, and that I order'd her to be Fir'd upon. *The Contrary is very plain, for when I saw some of them that had Fir'd without my Orders, I was very Uneasy and Troubled at it, knowing the Consequence of it.*

The Second Thing that's Matterial is, that the Ship mentioned by Mr. *Funnell* in p. 45. 46. where he seems to Explain 80000 Dollars was Hid in the Run of the Ship, *and I slipt the Opportunity of taking it, and turning her Adrift*; So this I answer, *That I had evident Proof she had Landed her Money at Truxillo*; and as to Provisions, we took as much as would provide us for One Year, and much longer, if well manag'd, that was, what our Ship could well Stow, and this was the *Steward* and the *Crew's* Calculation. Now as to a Report that they make about Town 50000 Dollars that shou'd be offer'd for her Ransom; First I had no convenient Road to Ride in, and the strong *Southerly Winds* were set in, and so if I had Loyter'd for her, must certainly been Imbay'd for 3 or 4 Months: Besides the *Winds*, thro' the Treachery of the *Spaniards*, I have had the Experience of it before in a like Case, Riding there for Ransom with Capt. *Swan* and Capt. *Davis*, for instead of keeping their Faith, they came off with a Pire-ship in the Night and 14 *Periagoes*; and tho' *we had much better Crews and Stouter Men.* We came narrowly off

Now, that they are Judges in my Case and Conduct, a Parcel of Fellows who were perpetually drunk, and very fit, you'll say, for Guarding a Ship in the Night, or being kept in any Decorum.

Again in p. 46. 47. Whereas Mr. *Funnell* frequently would Insinuate, that I could agree with no body; and so says that parted this way with Capt. *Stradling*. I say, I Depute[d] Capt. *Straaling*; nay not only that, but at *Juan de Fernandes*, when all his Men left him, I reconcil'd them and him again; therefor

I might expect a Reasonable Command; but never entred into a Dispute. I lent him a spare Top-Mast, his Ships Crew being sickly, he had always my Chirurgeon, and the Mate he carry'd away a last, and any Kindness I could do him, I did in Heartily for the Good of his Voyage.

In p. 55. he says we met a Spanish Man of War, *and after our usual manner, we got to Leward of Her thro' their Mistarriage*; and after a Broad side or two were Given and Taken, I endeavouring to make more Sail, flung out my *Flying Gib*. They who were always Doing something they shou'd not; and did not think me Worthy their Council, had sprung my Fore-Top-Mast in the Night, so it immediately came by the Board. By *this I was utterly depriv'd of Means to get a Windward, or any thing else, I lying wholly at her Mercy; that Fighting her this way was inconsistant with Reason.* And whereas he says we Fir'd 560 Guns at her. I do verily believe not 60 ever Hit her; now to what purpose they Convict themselves, I know not *For I was forc'd to Command 'em to forbear Firing.*

P. 58. In our going to *Tacames*, he Talks of Provision, and seems to call my Judgment in question about getting it, and that the People drove away the Cattle. *There may be* Wild Hogs ... Plantanes *there, but Nothing else*, so that I suppose this is to Redicule my Great Designs. Not but that there might be 2 or 3 *Cows*. He makes 3 *Indian* Houses 50, and there they did bring off a little Boat, and told me there was a great deal of Plank ashore.

The next Morning I sent the Master, *Bellhash, who is a very Valiant Man now*, with 20 or 30 Men and Fire-Arms with them. They were so far from bringing Plank, that upon one Shot fir'd at 'em, they all came Running Aboard frighted, lost 2 or 3 Pieces; *And these are the Mighty Bravoes that are fit to set People by the Ears at Home, and make Scandal as Rife with me as 'tis with them.*

What's observable, is; it is not enough to Run away with ne Owner's Goods, and do what you please with Bales of Silk, nall Arms, or any other Stores; *and under Pretence of Share*, ke away the Owner's Part, and do what else they please; of r to kill the Captain, or any other Villany. This Mr. *Funnel* lls Falling out with the Captain; *'Tis his frequent Dialect.*

But as to Mr. *Cleppington*, that he mentions in p. 68. where says he sent us word. On the contrary, he seiz'd my Barque, herein was two quarter Deck Guns, two Pattereroes, with

all

all my Powder and Shot. *For here you may Observe*, that we were upon the Careen in the Gulph of *Nicoya*; all my Great Guns, except four, were Ashore, and those 4 in my Hole; my small Arms wet, so that I had nothing to Command him back.

I can't forget to tell the World these Fellows in their common Practice, *Bellhash*, *Cleppington*, and the rest, whenever they were upon Command, stript the Prisoners, *Indians*, or *Spaniards*; whereas let them convict me of any thing more than the most Compassionate *Christian* Usage to all Ranks of Men, and this I thought was the best way of Performing the Voyage. Therefore to return to Mr. *Cleppington*, let the World judge if these Rognes (whose Cruelty is a Mark of Cowardice) were not upon the Watch from time to time, to disappoint and overset the Voyage; For here was *Bellhash* the *Master*, *Cleppington* the *Mate*, *Bath* the Gunner, and about 20 Men; with the never be forgotten noble Capt. *Thomas*, which I will speak of hereafter. But in the Evening comes back *Bath*, *Bellhash*, *Thomas*, and some others, demanding their Cloaths, these I stopt. As soon as ever the Mate *Cleppington* was gone, then the rest of the Crew made a Demand to have the Money and Plate; and what was got, shar'd amongst them, which I refus'd to do; and when I found they were in the Mutinying Vein, I produc'd the Queen's Orders, and told 'em it was out of my Power; but if at the End of the Voyage, they would carry the *Ship* into any Port of the *West-Indies*, or *East*, I would do Justice to my Owners and them.

Mr. Funnell *forgets that he Minded them of one thing that is very honest in him* (which was) *that all Governours of Forts were my Friends, and then they should have nothing. Now in a Ship of War this would be Mutiny, and punish'd with Death.*

As to the *Acapulca Ship* which he mentions in p. 83. He says, when we came up with the *Acapulca Ship*, we gave her several Broadsides before she could get any of her Guns clear. To this I answer,

It *is False Intirely so*; *for I no sooner Fir'd on her, but she Fir'd on me, and had her Guns out before.* Again he says,

That while some of them were Quarrelling about Laying her on Board, and some Disputing the Contrary, she got out a Teer of Guns, and then was too hard for us.

Mr. Funnell *might hear Disputs, as he calls it, among the Men*; That was nothing to my Command. *They might have taken her, would they have Obey'd my Advice, which was to Ply her with my Chace Guns, and Command her that way; For we had nothing to*

do

boarding Side, and that I refer my self to all Sailors in the World, whether it was right or not. And considering the Inequality of our Nmbers and Bulk of Ship.

Before the beginning of this Action, we were to the Windward of her, she standing to the *Westward*, and we Bearing away upon her with a Flown sheet I then order'd my Officers to keep enough to be sure to Windward of her; instead of this, to the grief of my Heart, they Edg'd away, and were so far from having the Power to Command and Board her, as I intended, that we lost the Opportunity, and were forc'd to Leward the whole time; after that I Tack'd, came about, and had her under my Lee-Bow: and then I hop'd to Batter her with my Chace Guns, she having no Stern-Chace to Gall us; this I took to be the best way of Disabling her, and this way I could have made her yield. Instead of this, to shew the World how ready my Officers were to Board her, or Perform their Duty, the *Master* and the *Mate* left the *Braces*, and betook them to the Great Guns; so in this Confusion, neither they nor the private Men (let 'em talk what they will) ever intended Boarding her: For as an Argument against all they can say, there was not a Man to be Assistant to any Purpose; No Yards brac'd, not a Rope plic'd or knotted in all the Action. For the very Man at Helm contradicted my Orders, Edg'd her away to Leward once more; which *I offer'd to shoot him through the Head.* While things were at this Pass, the *Boatswain* being at the Braces, I ask'd him what they did intend to do? He told me to Board her. *Clap her her on a Wind then, said I.* But for want of Wind by this time (they being Drunk and Bewitch'd) as if all things had concurr'd to our Wrong, *The Ship had neither Way, or would she Keep to.* Now could I have gotten along side, they were so far from being Desirous to Board her, that the *Master* went about Discouraging of the Men; Not only that, but he and another came to me, shewing the Powder Barrels at the Enemy's Yard Arms. About 4 in the Afternoon, when we were a great way to the Leward, *Clark* the *Mate*, who by this time was Potent in Liquor, cry'd Board, board her.

I answer'd, to Night, 'tis Impossible, we have a fair Day to Morrow before us, and now no Wind to work the Ship. But to see the Nature of these Fellows, in the Night they actually lost her in Steering directly from her; and for 3 days after this, they were frighted, *and not Dissuiss'd, as they call it*, their Pannick Qualms, was ever Incurable, and they would not Tack-about again on any Account.

To conclude then; to engage them to Cruize six Weeks longer, I was forc'd to set my Hand to a Paper, that I would (after that time) make the Best of my way to *India*. So once more we stood towards *Acapulco* again; and after standing *Eastward* for some time, we, with a Joint-Consent, went to *Amapala* to Water.

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In p. 36. We must not omit that *Funnel* says, that it was Concluded between Capt. *Dampier* and 30 of our Men, to continue in the *South-Sea*; but upon what Terms this Agreement was made, was kept a Secret.

'Tis well known I never Propos'd any thing that was otherwise than Honorable and Justifiable on our Return to England; *He knows their Villany, and is My Witty in his turning* Robbery and Mutiny upon me; *Wherein* I would have kept all my Men, and begg'd for any little Respite, that they would consider the Blackness of the Action. So that where Mr. *Funnell* himself was Chiefly an Undertaker, his Fear of being [illegible] Home, may excuse as well as other Follies that he is Guilty of.

For when he would Cloak over the Matter, he says his Owner's (Mr. *Morgan*, who is Beholden to him) appointed and shar'd the Plunder; so among he it. I was no sooner at an Anchor at *Amapala*, but the Hands as One Man, went to *work* in getting the Barque on Board, first took my Guns and Provision out by Force.

And that Mr. *Bellhash* by name, that all Men may know him, and how far he is to be Intrusted, took me by the Throat, and swore if I spoke a Word, they would Dash my Brains out, and the rest standing by Connving at the Action. So that when we come to Repeat that which may be spoken of more at large, they ask'd for my Keys of the *Powder Room* and Chest of small Arms; *I deny'd 'em.* Mr. Morgan *himself said, as to that we have Iron Crows on Board, they are as good Keys as we desire, and with that broke 'em open.*

Note, Out of 60 Hands that remain'd, they left me 27 Men after Rifling every Thing. Now I refer my self to all Mankind, as they made their Brags they left me but One Sailor; Tho they left me Life then *But they would bereave me of my Good Name here, and Stab my Reputation ever?* But to make sure Play still, they turn'd my Prisoners ashore, and this Method intended to lay such a Bar in my way, *That as they have the world I should never come Home; it is a Miracle in Nature how I did.*

Considering the *Spaniards* had Notice of me before, I got upon the Coast of *Peru*, through their Releasing the Prisoners; Now let all Mankind judge of the Miserable condition I was in, there being a Man of War that lay ready for me. So that let 'em colour one Villany on another, and excuse it as they will, I am satisfy'd the Fear of meeting the *Spanish* Men of War on the Coast, was the Occasion. 'Twould be tedious to Invent their Impudence; But when that Buffoon *Toby Thomas* by name, said, *Tho Dampier, by Case is like King James, every Body has left them*: I must declare to the World *then, and always*, the Doctor was the only Officer that stood by me in all my Adversities. More shall be said of Mr. *Funnell* hereafter, when his whole Book is more Seriously Consider'd.

FINIS.

POSTSCRIPT.

HAving Read Capt. *Le Wright*'s Proposals for another Expedition into the *South Seas*, I do think it Proper and Advantagious, and that he was Intirely in the Right; and I am ready to Satisfy any *Committee* of *Merchants* how Praft cable and Expedient it is to put it in Execution forthwith.

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